

34. (currently amended) A secure medical records maintenance system, comprising:

a plurality of removable memory storage devices, each operable for storing medical data for an associated patient, a patient-specified personal identification number, and a medical records identification number secured by the patient-specified personal identification number;

a first remote server operable for storing patient identification information indexed patient identification numbers;

a second remote server operable for storing patient medical data indexed by the medical records identification numbers; and

a correlation table uniquely associating each medical records identification number with a particular one of the patient identification numbers, and

the medical data maintained in the second remote server cannot be correlated to the associated patient identification information maintained in the first remote server based on the information contained in the first and second remote servers.

35. (original)

36. (new) The secure medical records maintenance system of claim 38, wherein the correlation table is maintained outside the first and second remote servers and made available through secure, restricted access to authorized personnel.

37-38 (original)

39. (currently amended) The secure medical records maintenance system of claim 38, wherein the application procedure comprises issuance of a client certificate insuring ensuring that access to the first and second remote servers occurs from the practitioner's computer.

40-44 (original)